



## Washington DNR Sept 28 Fuels Outlook

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**Fuel Conditions:** All FDRA's are between the 50-65<sup>th</sup> percentile for the east side, and they are currently barely registering for the west side. For both sides of the mountains this is mostly due to the smaller fuel size classes. Large fuels have soaked up some moisture over the last week, but this kind of newly absorbed moisture can be shed just as quickly as the core of the large fuel is still dry.

1000 hour fuel moistures - Blues 10% Methow 15% Chelan 17% Upper Yakima 15% Highlands 15%  
Lower Yakima 19% Upper Basin 15% Valley 18% Lower Basin 17% Kaniksu 20% Foothills 20%  
Westside 24-27%

Forecast – High pressure is setting up for a clear, warm, and dry week ahead with offshore flow. Unlike the pattern that set up for labor day, this is not as extreme in any measure with daytime highs into the 80's, very good overnight RH recoveries for the east side with only a few isolated locations staying below 50%, light winds, and daytime RH minimums not dipping below 60% for the west side. It took a week of cool and wet weather to put on the moisture gains leading into this week, and given the mild nature of this weather, it is not going to be able to reverse those gains by a lot.

We will see 1000-hour fuels shed 1-2% across the state over the week, while the 1 and 10 hour fuels equalize to the sunny conditions. ERC values will come up a little bit in response, 60<sup>th</sup> to 70<sup>th</sup> percentile for the east side, and from near zero up to around the 60<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> percentiles for the west side as well.

### **Fire Behavior Potential:**

Eastern Washington: Burn periods will be short. Winds are relatively light and the daytime RH values do not reach anywhere near critical values limiting the intensity of the finer fuels. This will make for slow moving fires with waist high or shorter flame lengths in the grass, patchy burning under the canopy where shading will allow the moisture to hold on at the surface, and low resistance to control. Exposed sites will burn more freely than shaded sites, and there is a low probability extreme fire behavior indicators like torching and spotting.

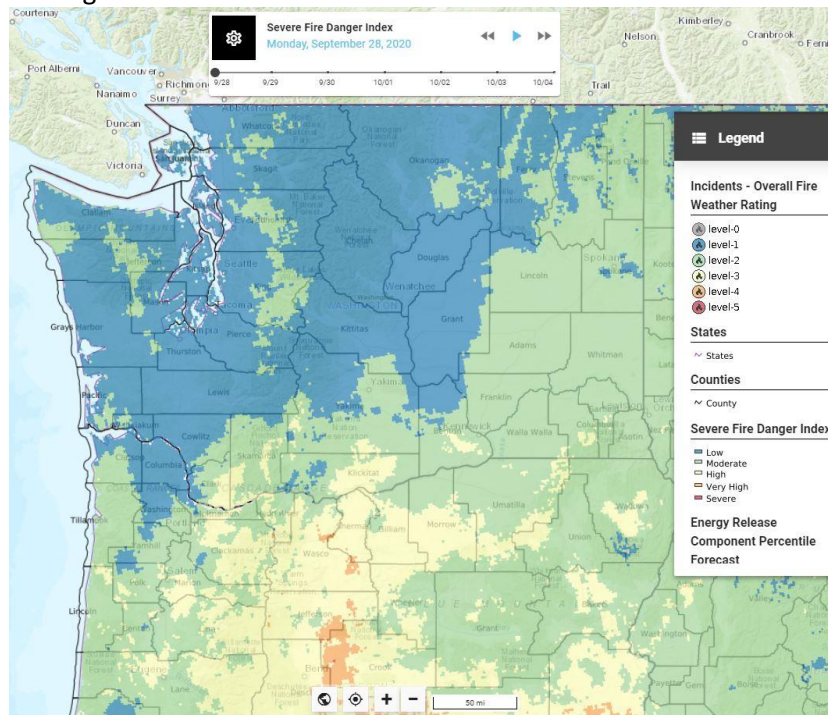
Western Washington: The offshore flow will help to dry out the exposed sites after last weeks drenching, and this is about the only areas that will be susceptible to fire spread this week as long as the RH forecasts hold. Fire potential will increase as the week progresses but fire activity should remain low and slow, with little resistance to control.

The potential through the forecast period for large costly fires in eastern WA is Moderate. In western WA, the potential for large costly fires is Very Low.

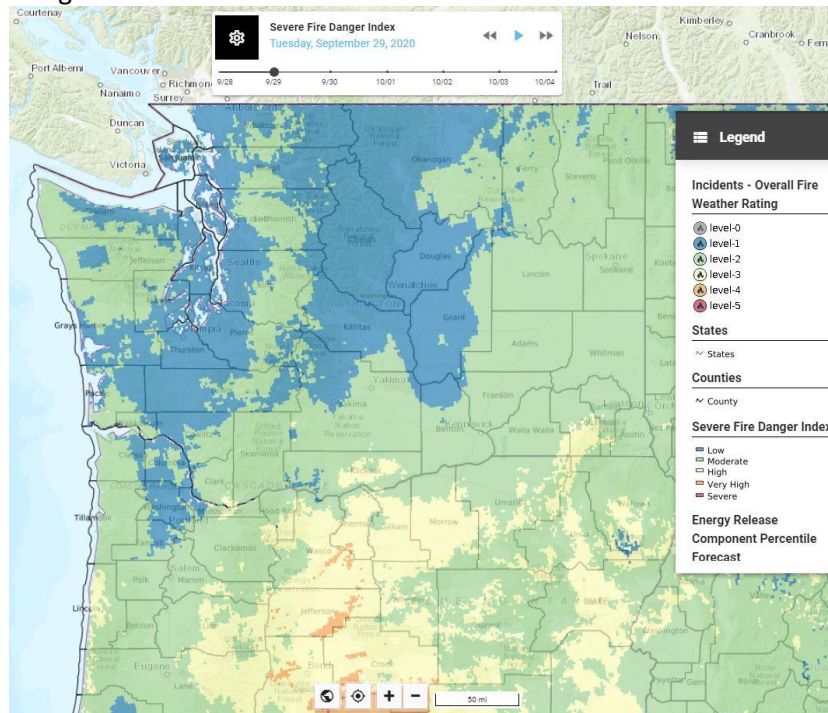


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### Today's Severe Fire Danger Index



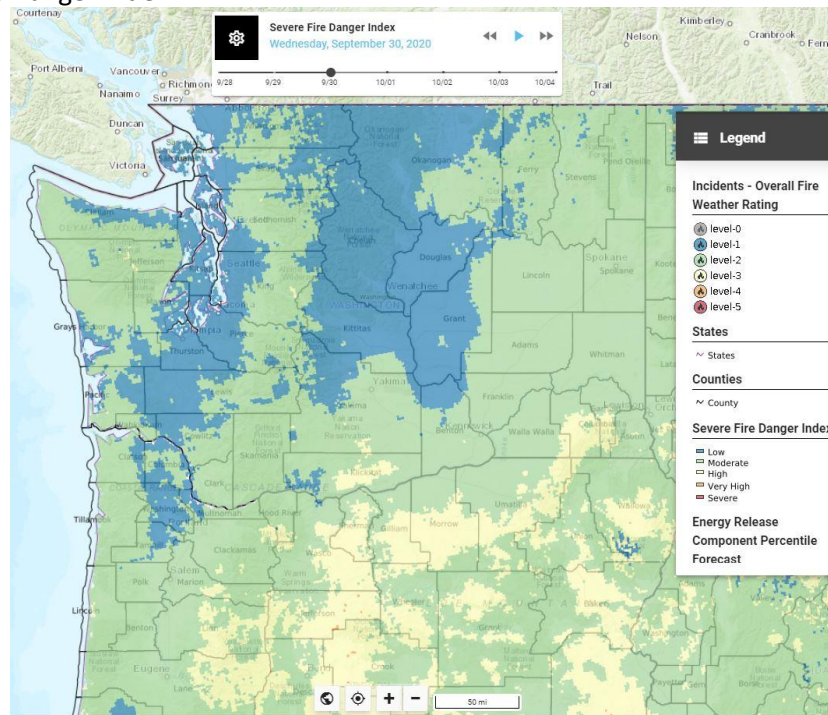
### Day 2 Severe Fire Danger Index





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### Day 3 Severe Fire Danger Index



### Day 4 Severe Fire Danger Index

